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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/909,445	07/19/2001	Fred S. Cook	1477	9653

28004 7590 11/02/2006

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KSOPHT0101-Z2100

OVERLAND PARK, KS 66251-2100

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, TAN D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3629

DATE MAILED: 11/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/909,445

Applicant(s)

COOK, FRED S.

Examiner

Tan Dean D. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 August 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-2 and 4-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Amendment filed 8/24/06 has been entered. Claims 1-2, 4-11 are pending and are rejected as followed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 4 depends on a cancelled claim 3.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

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1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

5. Claims 1, 2, 4-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over (1) REECE et al (US Patent 5,915,214).

As of 8/24/06, claim 1 is as followed:

t. (Currently Amended) A method for providing communication services, the method comprising:

- at a retail business, providing a wireless transceiver device to a customer of the retail business, wherein the wireless transceiver device is configured to receive at least one of a plurality of different communication services and provide the at least one of the plurality of different communication services to the customer of the retail business;
- receiving in at least one location of the retail business, the plurality of different communication services from a network system;
- in response to providing the wireless transceiver device to the customer of the retail business, receiving in the at least one location of the retail business a request from the wireless transceiver device for the at least one of the plurality of different communication services; and
- at the at least one location of the retail business, processing the request for the at least one of the plurality of different communication services; and

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- in response to processing the request, providing the at least one of the plurality of different communication services from the at least one location of the retail business to the wireless transceiver device over a wireless network.

Similarly, REECE et al discloses a method for providing communication services, comprising of:

(a) at a location, i.e. location of a retail business, providing a wireless transceiver device to a customer of the retail business, wherein the wireless transceiver device is configured to receive at least one of a plurality of different communication services and provide the at least one of the plurality of different communication services to the customer of the retail business;

{see Fig. 1, central Processing Facility (CPF) 10, 14, 16, 18, Fig. 12, 1260, col. 6, lines 21-67, Fig. 7 "different services: voice mail, E-mail, pages, faxes"}

(b) receiving in at least one location of the retail business, the plurality of different communication services from a network system;

{see Fig. 1, 18, 19}

(c.) in response to providing the wireless transceiver device to the customer of the retail business, receiving in the at least one location of the retail business a request from the wireless transceiver device for the at least one of the plurality of different communication services; and

{see Figs. 7, 8, 9, col. 13, lines 4-15, 38-65}

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(d) at the at least one location of the retail business, processing the request for the at least one of the plurality of different communication services; and

{see Fig. 1, CPF 10, col. 5, lines 42-57, col. 7, lines 1-20}.

(e) in response to processing the request, providing the at least one of the plurality of different communication services from the at least one location of the retail business to the wireless transceiver device over a wireless network.

{see Fig. 13, 1360, 1370, 1380, col. 6, lines 65 to col. 7, line 20}

Note on col. 5, lines 27-52, REECE et al discloses that the facility CPF 10 is a facility that provides data processing equipment, telephone equipment, microwave communication equipment, etc., and may also be composed of a multitude of smaller distributed facilities forming a network instead of a single central facility, which reads over "retail business". Alternatively, the selection of other term to indicate a business facility for transacting business with service provider and customer, i.e. store, retailer, central facility, etc., would have been obvious to a skilled artisan, marketer or business person, as mere selection of other similar or equivalent terms for the same function.

As for dep. claim 2 (part of 1 above), which deals with providing services between the service provider and the retailer (CPF 10) and from the retailer to the customer, these are taught in Fig. 1.

As for dep. claim 4 (part of 1 above), which deals with providing services from the network to the retail business or CPF 10, this is taught in Fig. 1.

As for dep. claims 5-7 (part of 1 above), which deals with well known business practice for conducting any business, i.e. providing a contract (or agreement) between

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two parties for using the service, this is taught in col. 5, lines 35-42. Alternatively, it would have been obvious to a skilled artisan to modify the teachings of REECE et al by including well known business practices of "providing a contract" between business services between partners to insure clear communication and compliance of the contract between two parties.

As for dep. claims 8-11 (part of 1 above), which deals with the type of communication services, i.e. video on demand, data exchange, voice, etc., these are taught on Fig. 7, col. 13, lines 45-52. Alternatively, the leasing/using of any other well known business devices or services for business travelers or meetings would have been obvious as mere applying the same idea/concept to other similar items/services to achieve similar results, absent evidence of unexpected results.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments, see response, filed 8/24/06, with respect to the 35 USC 103 rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-11 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Therefore, the rejections has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of REECE et al.

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

No claims are allowed.

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8. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct@uspto.gov>. Should you have any questions on access to the private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

In receiving an Office Action, it becomes apparent that certain documents are missing, e. g. copies of references, Forms PTO 1449, PTO-892, etc., requests for copies should be directed to Tech Center 3600 Customer Service at (571) 272-3600, or e-mail CustomerService3600@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry concerning the merits of the examination of the application should be directed to Dean Tan Nguyen at telephone number (571) 272-6806. My work schedule is normally Monday through Friday from 6:30 am - 4:00 pm. I am scheduled to be off every other Friday.

Should I be unavailable during my normal working hours, my supervisor John Weiss can be reached at (571) 272-6812.

The main FAX phone numbers for formal communications concerning this application are (571) 273-8300. My personal Fax is (571) 273-6806. Informal communications may be made, following a telephone call to the examiner, by an informal FAX number to be given.

dtn
October 30, 2006



DEANT. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER